

The Walker

Newsletter of the Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club

Volume 21, Issue 1

January/February 2013

Trips, Treks, and Talks - Jenni Pendergrass, Contributor

These activities made the deadline for the newsletter. Please remember to check the website calendar frequently for new events and any updates to the activities shown below. Comments and/or pictures from your activities can be posted to the club Facebook page. Find a new restaurant, new piece of gear, favorite trail recipe, or website? Share it with others through our Facebook page!!

CARPPOOLING Please honor the following suggested donation to your driver when carpooling to and from hikes: \$10 per rider for travel to and around the Charlottesville area (60-70 miles approx.) \$15+ per rider for travel beyond Charlottesville (over 75 miles).

ODATC Hike Rating Codes

Hiking boots are strongly recommended for all hikes. Hikers must be properly equipped, aware of their limitations & hike within their ability. In the interest of safety, activity coordinators may refuse to allow participation by club members or their guests.

<u>Terrain</u>	<u>Distance</u>
1 = Very Strenuous	A = More than 13 miles
2 = Strenuous	B = 9 to 13 miles
3 = Moderate	C = 5 to 9 miles
4 = Easy	D = Under 5 miles

January 1 (Tuesday) Wolfe Shelter Day Hike (B/2)

(Randy Wendell; Randy.Wendell@verizon.net)

Ring in the New Year by winter hiking with your friends to the Paul C. Wolfe shelter. This is a scenic 10-miler (5 in and 5 out) and we'll lunch at our comfy shelter, which sits near Mill Creek. There are some hills, which make this hike a good workout, but it's very do-able and is guaranteed to be a fun day. Contact Randy for more details.

January 2 (Wednesday) Oregon Hill / Hollywood Cemetery - RVA (C/4)

Dave Gillespie (749-4438 or kndgillesp@mindspring.com) This is a five-mile walk through the rolling landscape of Oregon Hill and Hollywood Cemetery. Park on 2nd Street near the Virginia War Memorial. DO NOT PARK IN THE WAR MEMORIAL PARKING LOT. Meet at 9:50 AM.

January 9 (Wednesday) Fredericksburg Historic Trail C/4

Hank Harman's annual favorite with Bill Tennant (282-0590 or willyten10@aol.com) assisting this year. Hike 5 ½ miles on the sidewalks of Fredericksburg. This historical hike includes a cemetery, which contains the graves of Mary Washington (mother of George), and ODATC's Pete Tansill's Confederate soldier grandfather. Lunch downtown. Carpool from the south end of Martin's parking lot in the Ashland Hanover S.C. located at the northeast corner of Route 54 and Route 1. We leave from

there at 9:00. Please plan to be there before then to coordinate carpools. If not carpooling, meet at the Downtown Fredericksburg Visitor's Center 706 Caroline St. about one hour north of Richmond at 9:50 AM.

January 15 (Tuesday) ODATC General Membership Meeting

Our first meeting of the New Year promises to be a good one as long-time member, Pete Tansill, presents *Walking Across America*. Pete hasn't completed the entire trek just yet, but he's made great progress and has plenty of stories to share, as only Pete can do! The meeting begins at 7PM, but members are encouraged to arrive at 6:30 for socializing and calisthenics. Snacks to share are always welcome and we'd also like you to bring a canned good to donate to the church's food bank.

January 16 (Wednesday) Henricus and Dutch Gap Conservation Area - Chesterfield D/4

Martha James (H 883-6252, C 516-3218, or Marthajames@yahoo.com). This hike is # 25 in Nathan Lott's *60 Hikes within 60 miles*. To reach the park, take I-95 to Exit 61 towards Hopewell, follow Rte. 10 East only 0.2 miles, immediate left onto Rte. 732 (Old Stage Road) for two miles. Follow the signs to the park. If weather is questionable-call Martha. Meet at the Henricus Village parking lot at 9:50 AM.

January 19 (Saturday) Catlett Mountain (C/2)

Jack Martin (rjmartinii@yahoo.com or 804/678-8083). This 8.5-mile circuit hike with 2,400 ft. elevation change in Shenandoah National Park circles Catlett Mountain descends Hot Mountain to Nicholson Hollow and climbs up Hannah Hollow. This hike is # 10 in PATC's Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park.

Bring a lunch. Meet at I-64 West Exit 167 Oilville Park and Ride at 7:30 am. Contact Jack in advance with your contact information in case weather causes cancellation.

January 19/20 (Saturday & Sunday) Paul Wolfe Shelter Freezeree Backpacking Trip (C/3)

Ken Baker (lightfoot230@juno.com or 804-572-3808) Tired of cabin fever? Then Get out for our annual winter backpacking and birthday celebration trip (for anyone with a January birthday). A good test for your winter camping gear and skills. About a 5-mile hike each day.

January 23 (Wednesday) Woodgrove Farm – Hanover (D-4)

Bill Gardner, a club member, has invited us to hike on his family farm, circa 1730 but has set a limit of 15 hikers. To sign up, you must email tedmcgarry@juno.com not earlier than January 17 (no early birds) and before Jan. 22 to go on this hike. Bring water and your own lunch to enjoy on the farmhouse deck afterwards.

January 26 (Saturday) Carter Taylor Trail (B/3)

Jack Martin (rjmartinii@yahoo.com or 804/678-8083).

Meet at 8:00 a.m. for this 12-mile hike in Buckingham-Appomattox State Forest. Bring a lunch. Contact Jack for meet-up information.

January 26 (Saturday) Lake Anna State Park – Spotsylvania County D-4

Bill Tennant (282-0590 or willyten10@aol.com) How about the peace and quiet of Lake Anna in the wintertime? Hike about 8 miles in mostly hardwood forest with views of Lake Anna from coves and creeks in the park's interior. The Park is about one hour northwest of Richmond. Contact Bill Tennant for time and meeting place.

January 30 (Wednesday) Windsor Farms / Rothesay Circle - RVA (D/4)

Suzanne Hallberg (H 285-8632 C 955-9510) Hike the 1915 planned community of Windsor Farms built during 'The City Beautiful' movement and then on to the Rothesay Circle neighborhood with vistas of the James River. Agecroft Hall and Virginia House may be on the tour followed by an optional inexpensive lunch. Meet in front of the Tuckahoe Women's Club, 4215 Dover Rd. at 9:50 AM.

February 2 (Saturday) Riprap Hollow Trail SNP (B/3)

Aseeyah Abdul-Karim and Tom Rhinesmith (804 382-6186 or solitude1957@hotmail.com). This 9.5-mile circuit hike with 2030 feet of elevation change in the Shenandoah National Park. Connects Wildcat Ridge with the AT. Excellent views of Calvary Rocks and Chimney Rocks, descends along Meadow Run through Cold Springs and Riprap Hollows. Possible stream crossing. Bring a lunch. Contact Aseeyah for further information.

February 6 (Wednesday) Classic Richmond Neighborhoods – RVA (D-4)

Ted McGarry (218-1238 or tedmcgarry@juno.com). One in a series of two-hour morning hikes by Richmond native and retired City Planner. Coordinator's choice: **Westover Hills** a 1920's neighborhood centered on Forest Hill Ave. and Westover Hills Boulevard, located south of the James. Meeting place is also our lunch spot, O'Toole's Restaurant, 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Park along 48th St. Meeting time 9:50 AM.

February 13 (Wednesday) Floodwall / Richmond Slave Trail – RVA (D/4)

Bill Tennant (282-0590 or Willyten10@aol.com). Hike over the Manchester Bridge, take in a few blocks of the Canal Walk and then on to Lumpkin's Jail, the beginning of the Richmond Slave Trail. Loop back and cross the Mayo Bridge, tour the docks on the South side of the James and return to the cars via the floodwall for a total of 5 miles. Optional lunch at Legend's after the hike. Meet at the Southside floodwall parking lot at Semmes and 7th at the south end of the Manchester Bridge at 9:50 AM.

February 16 (Saturday) South River Falls (B/3)

Jack Martin (rjmartiniii@yahoo.com or 804/678-8083).

This 10.2-mile circuit hike with 1,800 ft. elevation change is # 19 in PATC's Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park. Bring a lunch. Meet at I-64 West Exit 167 Oilville Park and Ride at 7:30 am. Contact Jack in advance with your contact information in case weather causes cancellation.

February 20 (Wednesday) Cold Harbor National Battlefield Park - Mechanicsville (D/4)

Jim Hunt (730-2364 or hikerjimhunt@hotmail.com) The National Park Service has set up 3.5 miles of very interesting trails through this major battlefield which protected Richmond during the War for Southern Independence. The trails have been expanded beyond the description of hike #13 in Nathan Lott's *60 Hikes within 60 Miles*. From I-295, take Exit 34 Creighton Rd. (Rte. 615) east to VA 156, right turn (South) on VA 156 for 2.5 miles to the ranger station on Cold Harbor Road. Meet at 9:50 AM.

February 23 (Saturday) Rocky Mountain/Brown Mountain (B/2)

Jack Martin (rjmartiniii@yahoo.com or 804/678-8083).

This 10.1-mile circuit hike with 2,100 ft. elevation change is # 21 in PATC's Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park. Bring a lunch. Meet at I-64 West Exit 167 Oilville Park & Ride at 7:30 am. Contact Jack in advance with your contact information in case weather causes cancellation.

February 23 (Saturday) Walnut Creek Park - South of Charlottesville (C-3)

Bill Tennant (282-0590 or willyten10@aol.com) Let's take a walk on a cold winter day. The Albemarle County Park is 480 acres, located just south of Charlottesville about one hour west of Richmond. This hike will be about 8-9 miles of gentle ups and downs around the lake with the ruins of a few old homesteads to add a little interest. Contact Bill Tennant for time and meeting place.

February 24 (Sunday) Bryan Park (D/4)

Another of Hank Harman's "Easy Hikes." This time we'll hike two miles in Bryan Park. Meet at shelter nearest the soccer fields at 2:30.

February 27 (Wednesday) Pocahontas State Park, Campground Area & Beaver Lake - Chesterfield (C/3)

Jeff Samuels (796-7949 or jefflsamuels@yahoo.com) One in a series of hikes in Pocahontas State Park. Hike 5 miles on mostly dirt trails (some hills) in the campground area and on several lesser-known trails leading to eastern Beaver Lake. The park entrance is on Beach Road (Rte. 655) 4 miles west of Rt. 10/Ironbridge Road and the Chesterfield County Government Center. Nominal parking fee without park pass. Meet in the big parking lot at the end of the main park road near the pool/picnic area at 9:30AM.

2013 ODATC Board of Directors

(Area Code 804)

President	Theresa Duffey	550-0955	odatc.president@gmail.com
Vice President	David Prestia		odatc.vicepresident@gmail.com
Secretary	Leonard Adkins	275-1208	odatc.secretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dennis Schafer	314-2434	odatc.treasurer@gmail.com
Programs	Randy Wendell	794-7833	odatc.programs@gmail.com
Land Mgmt.	Karl Huber	355-4619	odatc.landmgmt@gmail.com
Membership	Alice Preston	741-0049	
	Tayloe Moore	798-4535	tayloeg@gmail.com
Trail Maint.	Lori Ando	397-5306	odatc.trailmaint@gmail.com
Activities	Jenni Pendergrass	264-1633	odatc.activities@gmail.com
Newsletter	Katie Veilleux	919-900-8007	odatc.newsletter@gmail.com
Outreach	David Grimes		odatc.outreach@gmail.com
Webmaster	Larry Kidd		odatc.webmaster@gmail.com

President's Message

Greetings and Happy 2013!!

Where did 2012 go so quickly?! The club had another successful year, although perhaps more routine than 2011 which included the biennial conference. As an aside, in case you are planning your summer vacation, consider the 2013 conference being held July 19-26 in Cullowhee, NC. More details will be available in early spring.

Starting in January 2012, seven new individuals joined the Board. These folks brought a lot of talent and creativity to the table. At our November general meeting, 4 individuals, 3 new and one incumbent, were elected. Lori Ando graciously agreed to serve as trail maintenance supervisor for another term. Joining the gang is Larry Kidd as website chair, David Prestia as vice president, and David Grimes as outreach. I must say based on the inquiries and questions asked at the December board meeting, these new folks will be bringing some new ideas and energy to your Board of Directors. I would be remiss in not thanking those who stepped down - Kimberly Lawrence and Jan Taylor. Their contributions were greatly appreciated. I hope they will continue to be active members of the club.

As you might recall, we have been seeking a candidate for the outreach position for quite some time. In early June, David Grimes offered to represent the club at the August Volunteer Leadership Workshop. I have the distinct impression that the speakers and theme of this workshop ignited the enthusiasm David has already been applying to his new position. He was hard at work developing an outreach program before he would agree to take the position.

Summing up some of the events of 2012, there was good participation on the monthly maintenance trips, although we are still struggling with the need for section overseers. The club received a significant amount of safety equipment and chainsaw gear through grant funds obtained by the USFS. This grant was linked to Public Lands Day and the AT Family Day hike, which was held on our section within the national forest. That family hike seemed to go well. I'm hoping we can have more this coming year and not just on the last Saturday in September. The weekday hikes have been wildly successful. Weekend hikes have increased but could still use a boost. The club sponsored Scout Venture Crew had a good first year. They are good to go for another. I'm hopeful we'll see the crew a bit more involved in some of the club activities this year.

Alice and Tayloe have been doing a great job as membership co-chairs. Our membership level has slightly increased through their tenacity in following up with old and new club members who might be falling a little behind in paying dues. I believe that Alice always travels with membership forms. One never knows when an opportunity might present itself for a potential new member!

I'm generally not one for making New Year's resolutions. However, I've decided to give the following a try in 2013. I intend to lead at least 4 hikes, participate on at least 4 of monthly maintenance trips and one day with Konnarock, and I'll be more diligent in helping Fran as her assistant as a section overseer. So is anyone else up for the challenge?! Guess we'll see in the November/December Walker how well I fared.

I hope everyone has a wonderful, safe, and prosperous New Year!

Happy Trails!

Theresa

ODATC Website Reminders

Keeping up-to-date with ODATC activities has become faster and more cost efficient with the use of the club website. WWW.ODATC.NET provides the membership with links to the ATC newsletter, store, stewardship, blogs, events, and general membership information.

We have a new webmaster, Larry Kidd. He will keep relevant information available on your schedule with a click of the mouse. Some information is available to everyone, while other items are available to members only.

Here are answers to some frequently asked questions about accessing the "members only" portion of the website.

1. What do I do if I forget my password? In the login area, enter your e-mail address and then click on the **forgot password** link. This takes you to a page where you are asked to enter your e-mail address where instructions for how to reset your password are sent. Go to your e-mail to find the message and follow the instructions.

2. I changed my e-mail address. Can I still log into the ODATC website? Of course, you can. Just

use your old e-mail address and your current password to log on. Please remember to update your profile with the new e-mail address. Remember to **save** your changes.

3. How do I edit my profile? To do this, first log in and click on the **view profile** link. Once your profile is displayed, click on the **edit profile** button. This will allow you to change your e-mail address and any other personal information that has changed. Remember to **save** your updates.

4. How do I renew my membership? First, log in. Then click on the link. Once your profile is displayed, find the **Renew Until *day month year*** button on the right side of the page. Click on this link. This takes you to the membership renewal page. Just follow the instructions to renew your membership for another year.

5. What payment options do I have? You can pay by check or by credit card. If you are mailing a check as payment for membership, remember to include a copy of the invoice that was e-mailed to you. The online payment mechanism goes through PayPal. You can use your PayPal account, if you have one, or your credit card.

The Walker - ODATC's Newsletter

The Walker is produced bi-monthly with the submission deadline on the 15th of the prior to publication. For example, the March/April issue has a deadline of February 15.

Club member stories and photos are welcome and greatly appreciated! Please send your submissions to Katie at odatc.newsletter@gmail.com.

ODATC General Membership Meeting - Tuesday, January 15

Our first meeting of the year promises to be a good one as long-time member, Pete Tansill, presents *Walking Across America*. Pete hasn't completed the entire trek just yet, but he's made great progress and has plenty of stories to share, as only Pete can do!

The meeting begins at 7PM, but members are encouraged to arrive at 6:30 for socializing and calisthenics (not really). Snacks to share are always welcome and we'd also like you to bring a canned good(s) to donate to the church foodbank.

Our Club Membership

9..... Distinguished Members
 26..... Life Time
 114 ... Family Memberships
 195 ... Individual Memberships
 4 Students

Special thanks and membership questions go to:
 Alice Preston (741-0049) or
 Tayloe Moore (798-4535)

ODATC Finances

Club Checking -----\$ 5,529.00
 Club Savings - -----\$ 4,122.00
 CDs--- ----- \$ 8,021.00

Appreciation to Treasurer
 Dennis Schafer
odatc.treasurer@gmail.com

Club Meetings

Club meetings are held on the third Tuesday of January, March, May, September, and November.

The next meeting is January 15 at 7 PM.

Trinity Lutheran Church 2315 N. Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23229

The Board meets monthly on the first Wednesday. If you have anything you would like to present or discuss, please contact Theresa Duffey, odatc.president@gmail.com.

Friends are welcome!!

The ODATC Mission

- The construction and maintenance of foot trails for hikers, including the trail between Reeds Gap and Rockfish Gap
- The provision of excursions on such trails or in other areas
- Offering of educational activities related to the need for preserving the great outdoors

If you enjoy winter hikes and wide-open views, visit the Shenandoah National Park website for a listing of alternative access points in case the drive is closed.

**www.nps.gov/shen
 Always hike with care!**



P.O. Box 25283
Richmond, VA 23260- 5283